



# Time to update the Bay Area Integrated Regional Water Management Plan!

The Bay Area Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) is a multi-stakeholder, nine-county roadmap

to coordinate and improve water supply reliability, protect water quality, manage flood protection, maintain public health standards, protect habitat and watershed resources, and enhance the overall health of San Francisco Bay.

The Bay Area IRWMP was developed in 2006 by a coalition of water and wastewater agencies, flood protection agencies, cities, non-governmental organizations, watershed groups, and regional planning associations. Acceptance of the 2006 Plan by the California Department of Water Resources has made approximately **\$107 million** in Propositions 50, 84 and 1E state grant money available to implement Bay Area projects to improve the health of our water and flood protection systems.

It's time to update the plan to guide future resource planning for:

- Water supply and water quality
- Wastewater and recycled water
- Flood protection and stormwater management
- Watershed management, habitat protection and restoration

New to the updated plan is a section on the impacts of climate change on water resources planning. This will be of particular interest to those interested in water and land resources in the low-elevation areas surrounding the San Francisco Bay.

Additionally, the 2013 IRWMP will emphasize the integration of water management strategies across the Bay Area achieved by collaboration among agencies and jurisdictions. The update of the IRWMP is being guided by a Coordinating Committee composed of the Bay Area's water, wastewater, flood protection and ecosystem and restoration agencies, as well as resources and regulatory agencies and non-governmental organizations.



*Grant-funded flood protection project, Lower Silver Creek, Santa Clara Co.*

## Why you should care about the 2013 IRWMP Update

Water resources cross jurisdictional boundaries. A systems approach is needed to manage water effectively, and the IRWMP guides that approach. The development and implementation of an effective, multi-interest IRWMP requires the attention of all jurisdictions and interest groups to ensure that key challenges are identified and effective solutions are funded.

In addition to your input into the Plan Update itself, that means that if your organization can identify a water-related need, you may be able to get a project funded, in part, by state grants. Projects selected for inclusion in the 2013 Plan Update may be eligible for future funding.

Qualified organizations and collaborations may include Bay Area water supply, water quality, wastewater, stormwater, flood management, watershed and habitat protection and restoration agencies, as well as local governments, environmental groups, business groups and other interested parties.



## How to Get Involved

The Bay Area IRWMP Update process will begin in spring 2012 and continue through 2013. You are invited to participate in a number of ways. By accessing the project website, [www.bairwmp.org](http://www.bairwmp.org), you will be able to:

- Read the most current Plan Update information and schedule. We'll be adding to it regularly.
- Sign up to receive email updates
- See announcements about IRWMP-specific public workshops around the Bay Area
- Track the work of the Coordinating Committee
- See the date and location of the monthly Coordinating Committee meetings as well as sub-regional meetings, all open to the public

[www.bairwmp.org](http://www.bairwmp.org)